

REMARKS

In this amendment, claims 1-30 and 75-101 are pending. Claims 14 and 80-84 are amended. Claims 1-4, 6-12, 24-30, 75, 77-79, 87-95, 97, and 101 are canceled. Claims are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer toward pursuit of these claims in a continuation application. The amendments correct various informalities, add limitations from pending claims, and add clarifying language.

Applicants thank Examiner Leung for the meticulous examination accorded this application.

Claim Objections

All of the claims that have been objected to are now canceled.

Double Patenting

Claim 76 is now canceled.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §112, 2nd Paragraph

Claims 84 and 86 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

Claim 84 is amended is to specify that the second unit operation comprises reacting.

In view of the amendments and above remarks, withdrawal of the section 112 rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejection as Obvious Over Bottcher et al. ('818) in view of Yamashita et al.

Claims 1-3, 6-9, 75, 78, 79, 86, and 95 have been rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as obvious over Bottcher et al. ('818) in view of Yamashita et al.

These claims are now canceled.

Rejection as Obvious Over Bottcher et al. ('818) in view of Yamashita et al. and further in view of Bottcher et al. (US 5,212,004)

Claim 4 has been rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as obvious over Bottcher et al. ('818) in view of Yamashita et al. and further in view of Bottcher et al. (US 5,212,004).

Claim 4 is now canceled.

Rejection of 27-30 under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being obvious over Bottcher et al.

Claims 27-30 are now canceled.

Rejection as Anticipated By Symonds et al.

Claims 10-12 and 101 have been rejected under 35 USC §102 as anticipated by Symonds et al. (WO 00/34728).

These claims are now canceled.

Rejection as Obvious Over Symonds et al. in view of Yamashita et al.

Claims 11 and 12 have been rejected under 35 USC §103 as being obvious over Symonds et al. (WO 00/34728) in view of Yamashita et al.

These claims are now canceled.

Rejection as Obvious Over Bottcher et al. ('818) in view of Haswell et al.

Claims 24-26, 77 and 97 have been rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as obvious over Bottcher et al. ('818) in view of Haswell et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

These claims are now canceled.

Rejection as Obvious Symonds

Claims 87-93 have been rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as obvious over Symonds et al.

These claims are now canceled.

Allowable Subject Matter

As indicated on paragraphs 12 and 13 of the Office Action, claims 5, 13-23, 76, 85, 96, 98, 99, and 100 are allowable.

Claims 80-83 would be allowable if rewritten to include all limitations of any intervening claims. These claims are now amended to include all limitations of any intervening claims; and thus are now allowable.

Claims 84 and 86 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the section 112 rejection. This has been done. Accordingly, claims 84 and 86 are now allowable.

Conclusion

If the Examiner has any questions or would like to speak to Applicants' representative,
the Examiner is encouraged to call Applicants' attorney at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

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